



The Brooklyn Paper

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CAR-FREE P'PARK?

Council bill would forbid autos — all week long

By Natalie O'Neill
The Brooklyn Paper

A Manhattan lawmaker wants to ban cars from Prospect Park — a plan that would tame the “hectic pace of city life,” its chief supporter says.

Councilwoman Gale Brewer (D-Manhattan) introduced a bill last week that restricts drivers from entering Prospect Park at all times, saying, “New Yorkers should be able to go to the park without worrying about motor vehicle traffic.”

Some Prospect Park devotees — well, the cyclists, dog-walkers, goose-watchers and pedestrians, at least — love what the bill would mean for the 585-



MEAN Streets

The battle for Brooklyn's byways

acre oasis.

“If she gets this bill approved, I’ll vote for her for mayor!” said Bob Ipear of the park’s esteemed dog group FIDO.

Cars in Prospect Park are currently restricted to the West Drive on weekdays from 5 to 7 pm; and the East Drive from 7 to 9 am. Motor vehicles can’t enter the park at all on weekends — which is when cyclists dream of wider restrictions.

“Parks should be a place



Cyclist Johanna Clearfield backs a bill that would make Prospect Park off limits to cars — as it is on weekends.

where you can bike in peace,” said avid two-wheeler Johanna Clearfield.

It’s not the first time Councilwoman Brewer has pushed for car-free parks. In 2006, she introduced a nearly identical bill that died after the Bloomberg administration limited car hours to

See **PARK** on page 9

KINDER CRISIS

No room for new kids at Park Slope schools

By Kate Briquelet
for The Brooklyn Paper

It’s an all-out war for the most sought-after commodity in baby-filled Park Slope — a kindergarten seat.

Park Slope parents panicked last week when the city put 47 kindergarten-aged kids on the waiting list at PS 107 — and gave no information about where the rejected students would be enrolled in September.

Meanwhile, the staff of the Eighth Avenue school is making unannounced house visits to weed out kids whose parents lied about their address.

“I know it’s terrible, but what are you going to do?” said Pat Mannino, a school administrator who has visited 35 homes on a list of 142 — yet caught only two out-of-district kids. “When there’s so many kids on a wait list, it’s not fair to those who are legit.”

Several wait-listed families have rushed to other area schools, including PS 10 at Prospect and Seventh avenues, begging to



PS 107 is so overcrowded that school administrator Pat Mannino has been searching to weed out ineligible kids.

apply but principals have close their doors, saying that they may not have space for all their in-zone students.

Parents are demanding city action, even calling for PS 107’s lone, 18-seat pre-K class to be canceled to open up more kindergarten seats.

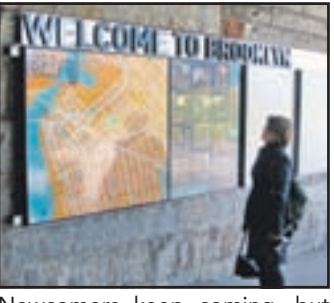
“Unless they convert that pre-K, I don’t have any hope at all,” said Steven Kreps, whose son, Reuben, is 41st on the wait list.

PS 107 isn’t the only battleground in the war to make room in Park Slope’s overburdened schools.

Other area schools, including PS 39 on Sixth Avenue, turned away in-zone kindergartners for the first time, leaving parents to scramble for seats and worry about competing for spots in the years to come.

Laura Scott, principal of PS 10 on nearby Seventh Avenue, said she was able to accommodate all her in-zone applicants, but making room has become

See **CRISIS** on page 10



File photo by Eric Ross

Brooklyn: This makes no Census!

By Aaron Short
The Brooklyn Paper

Borough leaders are slamming the US Census Bureau after the agency claimed that Brooklyn grew by only 40,000 people over the past decade.

“It’s a mistake,” said Borough President Markowitz, pronouncing himself “flabbergasted” by the allegation that the borough grew by only 1.6 per-



CENSUS 2010

cent to 2,504,700.

“It is inconceivable that Brooklyn — the hottest borough in which to live, work and play — grew only a small percentage in the past decade,” said Markowitz. “If you just count the Hasidim from Williamsburg, the Satmar and the Lubavitch Hasidim in Crown Heights, you’ve got a 40,000 increase

See **CENSUS** on page 9

The gayest of them all

By Natalie O'Neill
The Brooklyn Paper

Brooklyn has a new “gay” neighborhood, and it ain’t Park Slope. Just-released Census Bureau num-

bers show that the Columbia Street Waterfront District, the quiet enclave west of Cobble Hill and the Brooklyn-Queens Expressway, has more

See **GAY** on page 9

Hummus warriors

These Williamsburg workers were fired — and now you can’t get your chickpea dip

By Aaron Short
The Brooklyn Paper

Hold the hummus!

Three Brooklyn grocery stores are boycotting a Williamsburg manufacturer’s kosher chickpea spread after several factory workers claimed that they were illegally fired and are owed thousands in back wages.

The Associated Supermarket on Fifth Avenue in Park Slope

pulled containers of Sonny and Joe’s brand hummus from its shelves last week, joining the Park Slope Food Coop, whose members voted to ban the pita partner last November; and Brooklyn Fare, a Boerum Hill store that stopped carrying it earlier this month.

Sonny and Joe’s is one of several brands made by Flaum’s Appetizing on Scholes Street, which has been manufacturing kosher

foods since 1918.

Its workers, many of whom hail from Mexico and Central America, have bitterly complained about unkoshier working conditions at the factory for nearly a decade.

Company President Moshe Grudhut fired 17 workers after they tried to form a union — and briefly went on strike — in 2008.

See **HUMMUS** on page 10



Felipe Romero, Maria Corona, and Dionicio Melchor were fired by the company that makes Sonny & Joe’s Hummus — and are helping to organize a boycott.

Mom-strous

Cops: PTA big stole \$100K

By Thomas Tracy
The Brooklyn Paper

The former PTA treasurer at a Cobble Hill public school is facing 15 years in detention — the real kind — after being indicted this week for embezzling close to \$100,000 from her school.

Providence Hogan, who kept the books for PS 29 on Henry Street between Baltic and Kane streets, stole the cash to “keep her family living in the lifestyle they were accustomed to,” DA Charles Hynes said on Tuesday, one day before Hogan surrendered to authorities.

But the money wasn’t just for her existing family; Hynes claims the 43-year-old mom wrote several large checks to herself between 2007 and 2008 for fertility treatments as well to cover rent on her apartment and her business, the Providence Day Spa on Atlantic Avenue between Smith and Hoyt streets.

Hogan, who has a young daughter attending PS 29, covered her tracks by falsifying documents and business records, Hynes said. Parent association leaders didn’t realize that the money was missing until February, when they found a gap in the group’s tax returns. When they confronted her about the irregularities, Hogan admitted the



Providence Hogan leaves the 76th Precinct stationhouse on Wednesday.

theft, prosecutors say.

In all, investigators tracked \$82,000 in rent payments, medical treatments and business expenses swiped from the PS 29 PTA treasury.

“We figure she made the rest out to cash and used it on everyday items,” said a source close to the DA’s office.

Parents remain stunned.

“I’m disappointed,” said Dominick Balsamo, who has grandkids in the school. “You trust in someone and they take the money you put toward your kid’s future.”

See **PTA** on page 10

GOOSEWATCH 2011

190

GEESE IN PROSPECT PARK

(As of Tuesday, March 29)

Authorities say that if the number of geese goes above 200, there’s a problem.

Vigil: Leave our geese alone

By Natalie O'Neill
The Brooklyn Paper

All they were saying was “Give geese a chance.”

About 130 people — sentimental politicians, vegan chefs, precocious fifth graders among them — flooded Prospect Park to sing a message to Mayor Bloomberg: When you mess with Brooklyn wildlife, you mess with Brooklynites.

The “Hands Around the Lake” event was as much a political call to arms as it was a heartfelt love-letter to the feathered creatures



About 140 goose lovers held hands along the lakefront in Prospect Park on Saturday to protest what some see as an inevitable slaughter this summer.

who last summer were slaughtered in the name of aviation safety.

“We’re here to send the message to Mayor Bloomberg: Stop the slaughter of New York City’s geese,” said rally organizer Mary Beth Artz, who encouraged participants to flood the mayor’s Facebook and Twitter pages with comments.

The “visual statement” — which culminated in a human chain partly around the Prospect Park lake — was meant to voice opposition to a still-active

See **GEESE** on page 10

Fort Ham could lose big

By Thomas Tracy
The Brooklyn Paper

They’ll take Manhattan — with your money.

One of Fort Hamilton Army Base’s biggest tenants wants to move to the city — and hike its yearly rent by nearly \$1 million in taxpayer money — so its workers can have an easier commute.

The Army Corps of Engineers, whose 100-plus workers occupy two buildings at the 186-year-old military post, says that the majority of its employees will have an easier time getting to new digs on Varick Street, and it doesn’t mind raising its annual rent from the \$130,000 it pays in Brooklyn to the \$1 million-plus in Manhattan.

But Borough President Markowitz said it’s incomprehensible that the Corps would want to leave the borough.



Fort Hamilton Army Base in Bay Ridge could again be a target of federal bean counters.

“To think that they want to leave Fort Hamilton for the outer borough of Manhattan?” Markowitz cried. “Fort-geddaaboutit!”

But the Corps says it needs to be

closer to its clients.

“Being in Manhattan will make it easier for us to travel to our customers, and for our customers to travel to us,” said Corps spokesman Justin Ward. “Fort Hamilton is a little hard to get to.”

Fort advocates fear that losing the Corps could be the first step in a process that would eventually close the base. In 2005, the Army’s Base Realignment Closure Committee considered shuttering Fort Hamilton, but decided against it partly because of the Corps’ presence. The committee’s next round of closure recommendations will be in 2015, and without the Corps on base, the waterfront installation is more vulnerable to ax-wielding bean counters.

“[The Corps’ departure] will diminish our military significance and that’s

See **FT HAM** on page 10



Artist Olek leaves her tell-tale mark — a crocheted bicycle — at the pedestrian entrance to the Brooklyn Bridge.

Good yarn

Artist pimps her ride

By Meredith Deliso
The Brooklyn Paper

That’s not a celebrity that tourists are photographing under the Brooklyn Bridge — it’s a bicycle.

Agata Olek installed one of her crocheted two-wheelers at the stairs to the fabled span, and tourists immediately started snapping photos.

“I use the street as additional canvas to the gallery,” said Olek, who is as colorful as her work, decked out in a bright pink coat and multi-colored leg warmers and scarf. “It refers to life in the city — it’s still beautiful and bright, but falling apart slightly. That ephemeral quality is important to my work.”

The bike is hard to miss, thanks to a pink, purple, red, black, orange, and green camo pattern.

“It’s creative, I guess,” said DUMBO resident Terrance Leray. “It’s certainly not practical, but it is colorful!”

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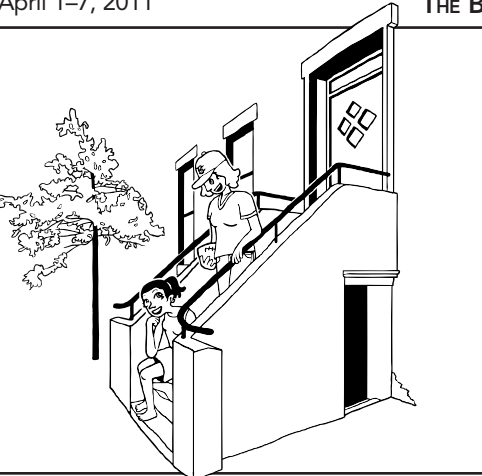
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THE STOP

NEIGHBORHOOD REPORT

GREENPOINT



Photo by Tom Callan

Aaron Broudo wanted to run an Asian-influenced night market on the Greenpoint waterfront, but neighbors pressured him to cancel.

‘Night’ death

Foes opposed nocturnal bazaar on waterfront

By Aaron Short
The Brooklyn Paper

Say goodnight to the “night market.” The producer of the Brooklyn Night Bazaar will postpone his proposed summer flea market and concert series on the Greenpoint waterfront until next year, after near-unanimous public outcry over the scale of the Asian-themed event.

“We don’t want to stuff this down the throats of public residents, we want this to be something that they love and all of New York loves,” said Bazaar producer Aaron Broudo. “We looked at the facts and heard loud and clear that the community is not ready for the bazaar to proceed in its current form.”

Broudo hoped to bring 5,000 people to a vacant West Street lot on weekend evenings to enjoy antique and vintage clothing shopping, delicacies from mobile food vendors, and rock music from neighborhood bands — a bit of Singapore on the East River.

But residents and public officials balked at many of the details, particularly Broudo’s bid to close West Street between Oak and Calyer streets, and his proposed 2 am closing time.

“I work weekends and it would have affected my sleep,” Elizabeth Roncetti told the Greenpoint Business Alliance at a meeting on Monday, two days before Broudo canned the event. “You don’t just walk in and take over the neighborhood.”

The unused waterfront lot where Broudo hopes to hold his bazaar sits adjacent to a windswept stretch of West Street home to several light manufacturing businesses.

But Calyer, Oak and Noble streets, which terminate at West Street, are some of the neighborhood’s most stately residential streets, home to Greenpoint’s only historic district.

Broudo was on the way towards making his market a reality. He had been making overtures to significant promoters such as Bowery Presents and Tiger Mountain Presents to use the space for large-scale music acts during weekdays and had raised more than \$8,000, according to the bazaar’s Kickstarter fundraising page.

But he could never fully allay residents’ fears of a noisy, boisterous market.

“The idea [did] not have any real local support and would have a serious impact on the surrounding neighborhood,” said Councilman Steve Levin (D–Greenpoint).

Broudo was disappointed at making his decision, but not discouraged. He says more planning is necessary to hold the event.

“We believe this event can be fantastic but don’t want to start it with an ugly backdrop,” said Broudo. “Look out for us next year.”

DOWNTOWN

New hotel is high on 718

By Gary Buiso
The Brooklyn Paper

A Downtown hotel is entering the digital age — claiming the borough’s area code as its chic calling card.

The developers of Hotel 718 on Duffield Street say their 19-story hotel will feature plenty of Brooklyn attitude — but in a good way.

“Across the country, you see people associating good things with Brooklyn, and 718 captures that,” said Greg Atkins, president of V3 Hotels.

The hotel, located between Fulton and Willoughby streets, is one of two that V3 is developing on the block, which will soon become a veritable hospitality row. Another new hotel, Aloft, is scheduled to open this month across the street next to the new Sheraton Hotel.

“We are going to run our hotel to make our guests feel as if they’re Brooklynites,” Atkins said. “All the things we love about Brooklyn will be at their fingertips.”

Number crunchers with V3 weighed hundreds of names before agreeing that 718 was the right fit.

“Brooklyn the brand is very valuable right now,” Atkins said.

Of course, this wasn’t always the case. At one time, New York’s 212 was the Fabergé egg of area codes. But when the city was riven, the 718 code became the ne’er-do-well cousin.

This isn’t the first time 718 has been used in a company name: Urban outfitter No. 718, a Staten Island company, has also claimed the digits. The area code, after all, isn’t exclusive to Brooklyn, and includes phone num-



Photo by Tom Callan

Greg Atkins (right) and Dan Reznik are developing the Hotel 718 (and another hotel) on Duffield Street in Downtown.

bers in the Bronx, Queens and Staten Island.

At one time, neighbors were hostile to the idea of redevelopment on the street, particularly given its role as a stop on the Underground Railroad, the ad-hoc network of safe houses and secret passages that allowed fugitive slaves to escape to freedom in the North or Canada.

But Hotel 718 — slated for a November opening — appears to have won one-time critics over.

“I don’t see a problem with it — as long as nothing happens to us,” said longtime block resident Joy Chate, whose home was once threatened with seizure as part of the city’s Downtown Brooklyn Plan.

She said the hotel should showcase its link to the past, suggesting it open up its basement as a historical attraction.

But the hotel has no plans to do that.

“We just have one cel-

PARK SLOPE

Con Ed’s parking ache

Utility cuts lot, forces workers onto the streets

By Natalie O’Neill
The Brooklyn Paper

Hundreds more drivers will compete for parking spots in Gowanus and Park Slope under a plan by Con Ed to eliminate a 250-space employee parking lot next month.

The energy giant will close the private parking lot inside its superblock complex bounded by Fourth and Third avenues and First and Third streets — sending workers hunting for spots alongside residents in the already spot-challenged area.

“This company don’t give a damn,” said union president Harry Farrell. “All they care about is money.”

Utility workers — many of whom commute from Staten Island, Queens and Long Island — say that closing the lot would flood the streets with suburbanites who are too burnt out to vie for parking.

But locals have an issue, too.

“Our lunch crowd already has a hard time,” said Ian Vidaurre, who manages Bogota Latin Bistro, which is nine blocks away on Fifth Avenue. “Less parking is bad for business.”

Con Ed spokesman Chris Olert said the firm is getting



Photo by Tom Callan

Con Ed workers will lose their parking — and be forced to find spaces on already clogged streets — under a plan by the energy giant at its plant on Fourth Avenue and First Street in Park Slope. (Left to right) Union members and leaders Marco Scorsone, Vinny Kyne, Lisa Vella, Tony Vallone, Harry Farrell oppose the plan.

rid of its free parking lot “as part of an overall strategy to reduce operating costs for customers.” Company honchos are subsidizing employees’ use public transportation, although out-of-borough workers — many of whom arrive before sunrise and work 16-hour days — say that’s unrealistic.

And workers like Vinny

Kyne think that the company should consider the larger ramifications of the move.

“It’s not just us who will suffer,” he said. “Park Slope will, too.”

Hundreds of employees use the building — which is full of offices, a locker room and a “service station” — as a home base, just catty-corner

from where a new Whole Foods will rise (and no-doubt draw even more traffic to the area).

A decline in the number of free parking spaces will inevitably result in more traffic. After all, a 2007 study revealed that 45 percent of traffic on nearby Seventh Avenue comes from drivers simply hunting for spots.

FORT GREENE

Wallabout officially historic

By Thomas Tracy
The Brooklyn Paper

The historic beauty of a swath of Civil War-era homes in an isolated corner of Fort Greene has finally been recognized.

More than 200 properties located within five blocks of Wallabout bounded by Myrtle, Park Washington and Clermont avenues were added to the New York State Register of Historic Places this week — a pivotal step for building owners hoping to tap into public preservation grants that will help them refurbish and restore the 150-year-old structures many in the area cherish.

“[The Wallabout area] is

one of the oldest communities in Brooklyn,” said resident Gary Hattem. “It’s a history and a story that we want to pass on to future generations.”

Hattem’s right to say that Wallabout has a lot of history: it’s filled with homes from early 19th-century Brooklyn as well as brownstone additions from borough legend Charles Pratt (the same Pratt who gave his name — and money — to found Pratt Institute a few blocks away). Many residences were built between 1830 and 1890.

Several Greek and Gothic Revival townhouses — replete with porch swings — can also be found along the quiet tree-lined streets that give Wallabout its charm.

The neighborhood’s addition to the state register may be a boon to those who own a historic home, but it does nothing to protect the area from out-of-scale construction — only city landmarking can do that.

If the city designates the area as a historic district, all new buildings must contribute to “a coherent streetscape [and] a distinct sense of place” — language that restricts the 10-story modern condo.



Photo by Stefanie Giovannini

Susan Raskin shows off her soon-to-be-landmarked Civil War-era home on Vanderbilt Avenue.

“[The landmarking] would be great for the block — it means we won’t have any more of that,” longtime resident Bill Washington told us, pointing to a seven-story black and gray steel condo at 122 Vanderbilt Ave., which he considers a modern eyesore. “This

block has come a long way in the last 30 years, and we want to keep it that way.”

The city has yet to make Wallabout a historic district, although a public hearing on it was held last fall and a decision is expected by the summer.

Until then, the state grant money should help the local economy.

“We see it as a job creator,” said Michael Blaise Backer, executive director of the Myrtle Avenue Revitalization Project. “This will be a huge opportunity for local laborers when these brick buildings and brownstones start getting restored.”

The Wallabout neighborhood was initially built to accommodate laborers who moved eastward to work at the nearby Brooklyn Navy Yard, which has its own unique history.

But that piece of Brooklyn’s past may soon disappear. Despite a long fought battle to get the Army National Guard to preserve two 19th-century buildings on the Flushing Avenue side of the Navy Yard, the Army has backed away from its promise claiming that the buildings are too run down to repair.

PARK SLOPE

Two churches to merge

By Dan MacLeod
for The Brooklyn Paper

Two Park Slope Catholic churches that are just six blocks away from each other plan will merge some operations confirmed on Monday.

St. Augustine’s and St. Francis Xavier, both on Sixth Avenue, are appointing committee members to oversee the combining of services of the two churches.

Neither church will be shuttered, Diocese officials claim, but some services and office hours will be consolidated so both churches aren’t running similar programs at the same time.

“The discussions have been in terms of administration — how the two parishes would work better together,” said Diocese spokesman Kieran Harrington.

The news comes during a time of general economic hardship for the Brooklyn Diocese, which is consolidating some of its 198 houses of worship in the so-called Borough of Churches.

Harrington said the Park Slope consolidation is more about location than financial hardship: Neither church is



Photo by Julie Rosenberg

St. Francis Xavier Church on Sixth Avenue in Park Slope (left) will merge some operations with St. Augustine Church (right) six blocks to the north.

broke now, but running two similar churches blocks away is wasteful, he said.

“It seems to make better sense that if you have two churches six blocks away you would leverage your services to better serve the people of the community,” he said.


“The point of it is to find some efficiencies.”

The pastors are currently appointing parishioners to a “collaborative committee”

that will guide the merging, Harrington said.

St. Francis Xavier pastor, Rev. William Reuger, made the stunning announcement to his congregation at services on Sunday at the gorgeous, 107-year-old Carroll Street cathedral.

The gothic St. Augustine’s Roman Catholic Church, at Sterling Place, dates back to 1886, and was originally a spiritual home to German and Irish immigrants.



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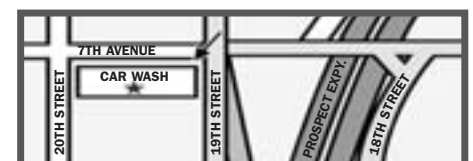
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Cops: We will punish bad ‘Dogs’

By Gary Buiso
The Brooklyn Paper

Cops may muzzle the Filthy Mad Dogs, a Red Hook motorcycle club, following a double shooting inside its headquarters last Saturday, and a related shooting near Methodist Hospital in Park Slope.

The early morning violence was not the work of a club member — but the incident was inside the club's Van Dyke Street hang-out, which is enough for police to potentially shutter the two-year-old club.

“We will take appropriate enforcement action,” said Capt. John Lewis, the commanding officer of the 76th Precinct.

Lewis said late last week that he's planning to powwow with Dog



members, and won't tolerate misbehavior there.

The shootings are the first criminal incidents that are alleged to have occurred at the club, which has been the target of unsubstantiated allegations of rowdiness, including wild parties, drinking in public, and brawling in the streets.

Last week, those rumors apparently became real.

According to police, mayhem erupted at the club, which is near Van Brunt Street, at around 3:30 am when a shooter struck a 28-year-old in the left hand, and a bystander, a 33-year-old man, in the left knee.

The third victim, a 28-year-old man, was shot in the lower left leg at Sixth Street and Eighth Avenue

about an hour later. The shooter drove from Red Hook to the hospital, where one of the Red Hook victim's was taken, prosecutors allege.

A distressed Mad Dogs official said the club is getting blamed for the actions of the shooter, who, sources said, was involved in a love triangle that involved one of his victims and a woman.

The publicity and police attention, the Dog member said, is just “not fair.”

Lewis was unapologetic, saying the precinct is taking a zero tolerance approach.

“If we don't take care of the little things, it has a chance to fester and grow,” Lewis said.

Senior beaten on subway

84TH PRECINCT

Brooklyn Heights–DUMBO–Boerum Hill–Downtown

A scoundrel beat up a senior citizen on Red Cross Place on March 22.

The 65-year-old victim told cops that he was inside the A/C subway station on Cadman Plaza at around 8:15 pm when a kid whacked him in the back of the head, then punched him, knocking him to the ground.

Afterward, the jerk snatched four checks — totaling \$4,000 — from the elderly fellow and fled through the train station.

Uneasy Rider

A thug stole a fancy motorcycle from a man on Columbia Heights on March 24.

The 48-year-old victim told cops that he parked his \$10,000 white Suzuki motorbike near Clark Street, at around 1 pm. He came back the next afternoon, but it was gone.

Backside bandit

A jerk snatched a purse from a woman on Smith Street on March 23.

The 63-year-old victim told cops that she was waiting for the bus near Bergen Street at 1 pm when a man approached her from behind and murmured, “Don't turn

POLICE BLOTTER

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around.” He then grabbed her black purse, which was draped over her right shoulder, and ran away. Inside was a brown wallet and \$20.

Furniture freak

A jerk snatched some expensive furniture from an apartment on Gold Street on March 25.

The victim told cops that someone covered the lens of a security camera at the

building, near York Street, between 3:30 pm and 4 am, then swiped a \$700 chair, an \$800 table and a statue from the apartment.

Lit crook

A jerk snatched Tom Wolfe book from a tourist at a coffee shop on Court Street on March 21.

The French traveler told cops she was at the Starbucks near Joralemon Street

at around 3 pm when she left her blue bag behind went outside for a cigarette. That's when the jerk snatched her pink laptop, passport and the novel, “I am Charlotte Simmons.”

Could be worse — it could have been “Bonfire of the Vanities.”

Jeep out

A crafty jerk stole a fancy car from a man on Willow Street on March 26.

The 42-year-old driver told cops that he parked his gray 2011 Jeep near Clark Street at 11 am and returned the next night to find it gone.

— **Natalie O'Neill**

76TH PRECINCT

Carroll Gardens–Cobble Hill–Red Hook

Now you tell us

A creep burglarized a Dikeman street home — and then offered advice to his victim after the deed was done on March 26.

The 44-year-old victim said she surprised the thug in her home located near Richards Street at around 4:30 am, and he demanded money. Just as he was about to leave with \$75, he said, “You should lock your windows — you live near the projects.” He also attempted to show a softer side, saying, “I wasn't going to shoot to kill you, I was just going to shoot you in the leg.”

Unlucky Cheng

Someone viciously stabbed a man outside a Lorraine Street restaurant on March 27.

The 34-year-old victim said he was outside Cheng's, a take-out joint near Columbia Street, at around 5 pm when another man suddenly stabbed him in the shoulder, back of the neck, and top of the head. The victim was taken to Lutheran Hospital.

Bus pop

A man was robbed at gunpoint at a Van Brunt Street bus stop on March 19.

The 63-year-old victim said that he was near Sullivan Street at 3:30 am when a thug wearing a red baseball hat flashed a silver pistol and demanded money.

The jerk made off with \$110, a checkbook, ATM card, library card and military discharge forms.

Apple picked

Someone burglarized a Henry Street home on March 24, taking jewelry and a computer.

The 35-year-old victim told cops that she left her home, which is near Luquer Street, at around 9 am and returned about 11 hours later to find her Apple laptop and gold jewelry were gone.

Foul play

Five teens stole a man's wallet inside Carroll Park on March 25.

The 23-year-old victim said he was playing basketball at Court and President streets at 4:30 pm when a member of the group asked to join. During the distraction, the other creeps made off with the victim's wallet, HTC cellphone, \$20, driver's license and social security card.

— **Gary Buiso**

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For both the Promotional CD and Passbook Money Market Accounts the maximum combined total deposit is \$250,000 per household. Customers can divide the \$250,000 among these accounts but the total cannot exceed \$250,000 per household. Funds to open these accounts must be new money and cannot be transferred from any existing Dime account.

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Gatecrasher

Two gun-toting goons jumped a man at the corner of DeKalb and Waverly avenues on March 20, robbing him of \$80.

The victim was nearing the corner at 9 pm when the thugs threw him against a gate and flashed a revolver.

Fewer dollars

A thug mugged a 27-year-old woman inside Fort Greene Park on March 21 — despite his victim's claims that she only had \$4.

The victim was on her way out of the park, approaching the corner of DeKalb Avenue and Fort Greene Place at 9:05 am when the thief pulled a gun on her and demanded her cash.

The victim opened her nearly empty wallet to show him she had very little to give, but the thief took the cash anyway.

Knifepoint!

A knife-wielding thug held up a 27-year-old at the corner of DeKalb Avenue and Hudson Street on March 26, taking the man's cash and wallet.

The victim was walking home at 3:31 am when the thief approached with his blade in his hand.

iPhone grab

A thief snagged an iPhone from a 28-year-old woman riding a Flatbush-bound 5 train rumbling into the Nevins Street station.

The thief grabbed the pricey smart phone and fled the train car before the doors could close at 2 pm.

BAM bilk

A thief plucked a 42-year-old woman's wallet as she watched a movie at the Brooklyn Academy of Music on March 25.

The thief lifted the wallet and ran up the woman's credit cards sometime before 4:40 pm, when the woman realized it was missing.

Prattled

A thief made off with a 24-year-old woman's wallet during a visit to Pratt Institute on March 17.

The student was inside a Willoughby Avenue building between Hall Street and Erasmus Place at 5:30 pm when she accidentally left her purse hanging off the back of her chair. When she returned to her bag a half hour later, her wallet was missing.

— **Thomas Tracy**

94TH PRECINCT

Greenpoint–Northside

Want it

Four perps beat up a 14-year-old boy on N. Seventh Street on March 24.

The boy got off the L train at Bedford Avenue at 4:54 pm when a perp on the staircase shouted, “I want his s—t.”

That thug grabbed the victim's legs, causing him to fall onto the staircase, where the other three perps surrounded him and kicked his head and shoulders before running into an arriving train.

Two burgs

At least two places were burglarized last week:

- A thief stole a set of turntables and a laptop from a Nassau Avenue apartment on March 22. The tenant told cops that he left his apartment near Hausman Street at 8:30 am, but returned at 7:45 pm to find his door damaged and his stuff was gone.
- Two perps stole \$5,000 worth of electrical wire from a West Street construction company on March 25 at 3:25 pm — but were soon arrested by police.

— **Aaron Short**

77TH PRECINCT

Prospect Heights

Lewd jerk

A creep forced a woman into a building and fondled her on Washington Avenue on March 23.

The 27-year-old victim told cops that she was unlocking the front door of her apartment near Dean Street at just after midnight when a 5-foot-9, 175-pound man shoved her into the lobby and grabbed her crotch. She screamed, and he ran away.

Van bash

A jerk broke into a van and jacked some electronic

See **BLOTTER** on page 10



FASHION

Vinny style

Here's the skinny on Vinny — he's huge! Bay Ridge fashion designer Vincent Lai — the “Vinny” of the “Skinny Vinny” line of accessories — has only been at this for two years, but his handbags, wallets and ties have fashion buyers placing orders all over town.

“We just sold out of Skinny Vinny, that's how great the bags are,” said Staceyjoy Elkin, owner of Red Lipstick, a Red Hook shop. “The designs are great and the manufacturing is top quality.”

Lai's line of bags includes totes, clutches, satchels and messenger bags — all made from heavy-duty cotton canvas, ranging from \$68 to \$180. Lai focuses on versatility like with his “Sal” bag, which can be worn in four different ways.

“I look to see what problems people have with their everyday bags,” said Lai, who recently returned from Hong Kong. “And then I try to solve them with my bags.”

Lai also makes hand-made 1920-style bow ties out of a cotton-wool blend. With names like “Gatz” and “Carraway” (ala “The Great Gatsby”), no two ties are the same. He also sells zoot-suit-styled leather wallets, which have a unique design that let your bills peek through.

“I just kind of want to be a lifestyle type of brand,” said Lai. “I like to keep it minimal, but comfortable for my customers.”

For more info, visit www.skinny-vinny.com. — Michelle Manetti

DINING

Brooklyn bite

This event goes off the menu.

At Tasting Brooklyn, enjoy dishes that you can't get at your favorite restaurants in an event that celebrates the borough's dynamic culinary scene.

“I myself love food, and I think Brooklyn as a community just loves food,” said Sharon Beason, organizer of the April 5 event. “I wanted to get on the bandwagon and celebrate the food culture.”

With that, there'll be stewed mushroom crostini from The Castello Plan in Flatbush, lamb sliders from Cobble Hill's Clover Club, braised short rib ravioli from Fornino and Park Slope, and chicken and pork adobo from Ditmas Park's Purple Yam.

Among the dessert options, you can't go wrong with chocolate truffles and chocolate drizzled caramel popcorn from, of course, the Chocolate Room.

Tasting Brooklyn at DUMBO Loft (155 Water St. at Anchorage Place in DUMBO, no phone), April 5 at 6:30 pm. Tickets \$45, \$60 for a 5:30 pm VIP hour. For info, visit brooklyn-exposed.com. — Meredith Deliso

FESTIVAL

Coney noise

Coney Island is kicking off the spring season the only way it knows how.

On April 3, Noisefest will bring an eclectic celebration of history, music, vaudeville and, of course, mermaids to the Boardwalk.

The festivities begin with a ringing of the old Dreamland Pier Bell to commemorate the 100-year anniversary of the fire that engulfed the old park. Then, the Jambalaya Brass Band will lead an honest-to-goodness New Orleans jazz funeral down the Boardwalk.

“There's going to be some satire, there's going to be some dead mermaids,” said photographer and video artist James DeMaria, who will be filming the “funeral.”

Finally, London-based artist Mr. Pustra will deliver a performance on his musical saw, an instrument once common in vaudeville.

So, why all the noise? “People have been missing old Coney Island, but it's time to move on,” said Dick Zigun, artistic director of Coney Island USA, which is organizing the festival. “That's what jazz funerals in New Orleans are about.”

Noisefest (1208 Surf Ave. between Stillwell Avenue and W. 12th Street in Coney Island, (718) 372-5159), April 3 at noon. Free. For info, visit www.coneyisland.com. — Haru Coryne

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The Brooklyn Paper's essential guide to the Borough of Kings

April 1–7, 2011

Bike babes

Sexy new show combines a few of our favorite things

By Meredith Deliso
The Brooklyn Paper

This burlesque show really shifts gears. “Bikes, Brews and Burlesque” is a new monthly show at Legion Bar in Williamsburg that conveniently combines three of our favorite things.

Heather Loop, aka Ms. Spoke, started “bikelesque” — burlesque performed with a bicycle, natch — as a way to reclaim her femininity.

“As a bike messenger, I am restricted in how feminine I can be — I can't really wear make-up, high heels, pencil skirts, or do my hair super fancy,” said the Bushwick-based performer. “So I took my bicycle and started doing burlesque with it and took back my femininity!”

That may mean wearing a costume made out of bike tubes, using homemade bicycle wheel fans — a spin on the traditional feather fans — doing tricks on a kid's bike and, one of her favorites, performing a playful skit where she “learns” how to ride a bike — her custom-made Square-bilt track frame — and gets some help from the audience in the process.

At the next show on April 7, Loop will be joined by Frida Schwinn and Lucille Ti Amore for some cheeky bikelesque. Just leave your camshaft at the door.

NIGHTLIFE

“Bikes, Brews and Burlesque” at Legion Bar [790 Metropolitan Ave. at Humboldt Street in Williamsburg, (718) 387-3797], April 7 at 10 pm. \$5.



Rock and roll: Heather Loop, aka Ms. Spoke, puts a new spin on burlesque with “Bikes, Booze and Burlesque,” a monthly show at Legion Bar in Williamsburg that combines three of our favorite things. Catch it next up on April 7.

The main squeeze

Night of accordion acts at Public Assembly

By Meredith Deliso
The Brooklyn Paper

It's his birthday, and he'll have accordions if he wants to. For his 43rd, David F. Slone, Esq., a nightlife personality behind such acts as “The Love Show” and “Nutcracker: Rated R,” knew just what he wanted to hear.

“I'm a huge fan of accordions,” said the Williamsburg-based entertainer. “There's just something about the way it bellows and lends dynamics to the sound that I enjoy very much.”

The accordion's still a bit of a novelty act, but thanks to the popularity of Balkan brass acts like Gogol Bordello, and the occasional busker at the Bedford Avenue L stop, it's had more of a presence in the music scene in recent years.

And, it's not such a rarity that Slone couldn't scrounge together



Accordian plan: David F. Slone, Esq. (wearing the top hat) will lead an accordion-based variety show at Public Assembly on April 4, with dancers, contortionists and magicians in tow (including Matt Dallow, inset).

a handful of accordionists to accompany him and his “Love Show” dancers at “Squeezebox Cabaret,” a night of accordion-based acts at Public Assembly on April 4.

There'll Corn Mo, the front-man of .357 Lover, Benjamin Ickies of This Ambitious Orchestra and Matt Dallow of Amour Obscure backing up dancers, magicians and singers, including Slone, who'll be singing “A Boy Named Sue.”

At this variety show, anything goes for Slone's crew — with the exception of one rule.

“As long as there's an accordion involved, I'll let them do whatever they want,” said Slone.

Squeezebox Cabaret at Public Assembly [70 N. Sixth St. between Wythe and Kent avenues in Williamsburg, (718) 384-4586], April 4 at 9:30 pm. Tickets \$10. For info, visit www.lesqueezebox.com



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UPCOMING EVENING EVENTS

Thurs, Apr 7, 7pm

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WHERE TO GO

EDITORS' PICKS

SATURDAY/SUNDAY
April 2-3



Photo by Stefano Giovannini

A boro-wide 'Flea' circus

The Brooklyn Flea opens a new outdoor location on the Williamsburg waterfront on Sunday, one day after re-opening its Fort Greene marketplace on Saturday. The waterfront location will be almost identical in size to the original space in the Bishop Loughlin HS schoolyard, with about 140 vendors. New vendors include menswear from Fine and Dandy; Williamsburg's Neal Mello/Cyd Mullen with vintage furniture and knickknacks from; Longtime Chelsea Garage dealer Christina Welch; Prospect Heights vintage and florist shop Park Delicatessen; punk record shop Slipped Disc; the Brooklyn Library Shop, which will set up a reading room with more than 1,500 of their artist sketchbooks; This 'n' That Jam; and Clinton Hill donut shop Dough (chef Bettina Gronning pictured above).

10 am-5pm. Brooklyn Flea Fort Greene (176 Lafayette Ave. between Clermont and Vanderbilt avenues in Fort Greene, no phone); Brooklyn Flea Williamsburg (East River between N. Sixth and N. Seventh streets in Williamsburg, no phone). For info, visit [www.brooklynflea.com](#).

SUNDAY
April 3

Lee way

In honor of the incomparable blonde — and Scandinavian heir — Peggy Lee, the Scandinavian East Coast Museum is hosting a tribute to the smoky-voiced legend. Sure, there'll be lots of song-and-dance numbers — but the highlight will be the impersonation contest featuring woman and men (Ridgite Bob Carlson does Peggy Lee better than Peggy Lee!).

3-7 pm. Peggy Lee tribute at the Bethlehem Lutheran Church (440 Ovington Ave. at Fourth Avenue in Bay Ridge, (718) 748-9502). Tickets \$35 (includes appetizers, drinks and dessert).



MONDAY
April 4

Dawg tired

Jonny Corndawg has been all over the country, but now he's starting a monthlong residency at Brooklyn Bowl. Country in the big city? Sure, Corndawg plays a foot-stompin' country sound, but you have to listen to his lyrics (especially the raunchy "Silver Panty Liners").

8 pm. Jonny Corndawg and Friends at Brooklyn Bowl (61 Wythe Ave. between N. 11th and N. 12th streets, (718) 963-3369). Tickets \$5-\$7. For info, visit [www.brooklyn-bowl.com](#).

SATURDAY
April 9

Betty raves

When Tony Award-winner Betty Buckley performs, you write the set list. In "Broadway By Request," the first lady of the Great White Way will perform selections picked by the audience from her illustrious Broadway career, which includes "Cats," "Sunset Boulevard," "The Mystery of Edwin Drood," and "Song and Dance."

Betty Buckley at the Brooklyn Center for the Performing Arts (2900 Campus Rd. at Hillel Place in Flatbush, (718) 951-4500), April 9 at 8 pm. Tickets \$55-\$75. For info, visit [www.brooklyn-centeronline.org](#).



NINE DAYS IN BROOKLYN

FRI, APRIL 1

THEATER, "JITNEY": The Gallery Players do August Wilson's play about the 20th century black American experience. Gallery Players (199 14th St., between Fourth and Fifth avenues in Park Slope, (212) 352-3101). [galleryplayers.com](#).

"THE STATIONS OF THE CROSS": Devotional paintings by Audrey Frank Anastasi on display for the Lenten season. Free. 6:30 am-2 pm. The Oratory Church of Saint Boniface (190 Duffield St. between Wiloughby Street and Myrtle Avenue in Fort Greene, (718) 875-2096). [www.oratory-church.org](#).

READING, POETRY NIGHT: In celebration of National Poetry Month. Free. 7 pm. Brooklyn Historical Society (128 Pierrepont St. at Clinton Street in Brooklyn Heights, (718) 222-4111). [www.brooklynhistory.org](#).

READING, PETE'S MULTIFARIOUS ARRAY: Poetry night. Free. 7 pm. Pete's Candy Store (709 Lorimer St. at Richardson Street in Williamsburg, (718) 302-3770). [www.petes-candystore.com](#).

THEATER, "SANDY AND SOIL": Experimental performance about, what else, life. \$10. 7:30 pm. Brooklyn Lyceum (227 Fourth Ave. at President Street in Park Slope, (718) 857-4816). [www.brooklynlyceum.com](#).

MUSIC, MARY FOWER: \$10 adults, \$6 children. 7:30-10:30 pm. Brooklyn Society for Ethical Culture (53 Prospect Park West at Second Street in Park Slope, (718) 768-2972). [www.bsec.org](#).

FILM, "THE ECONOMICS OF HAPPINESS": About the problems of globalization. \$10 adults, \$6 children. 7:30-9:30 pm. Brooklyn Society for Ethical Culture (53 Prospect Park West at Second Street in Park Slope, (718) 768-2972). [www.bsec.org](#).

THEATER, "DR. FRANKENSTEIN'S MAGICAL CREATURE": Rabbit Hole Ensemble reimagines Mary Shelley's "Frankenstein." \$18 (\$15



Photo by Bella Muccari

Men of honor: (From left) Barry L. Johnston, Gil Charleston and Lawrence Winslow star in "Jitney," August Wilson's moving, albeit imperfect play about gypsy cab drivers in 1970s Pittsburgh, now running at the Gallery Players.

students and seniors). 8 pm. Old First Reformed Church (729 Carroll St. at Seventh Avenue in Park Slope, (718) 638-8300). [rabbitholeensemble.com](#).

MUSIC, CLASSICAL CONCERT: Selections from Schubert and Mozart. \$40 (\$35 senior, \$15 student). 8 pm. Bargemusic (Fulton Ferry Landing, Old Fulton Street and Furman Street in DUMBO, (718) 624-2083). [www.bargemusic.org](#).

MUSIC, LEE FIELDS AND THE EXPRESSIONS, CHARLES BRADLEY AND THE MENAHAN STREET BAND: \$20. 9 pm. Music Hall of Williamsburg (66 N. Sixth St. between Kent and Wythe avenues in Williamsburg, (718) 486-5400). [www.musichallofwilliamsburg.com](#).

MUSIC, LIFE IN A BLENDER: Free. 10:30 pm. Freddy's Bar (627 Fifth Ave. between 17th and 18th streets in Greenwood Heights, (718) 768-0131). [www.freddysbar.com](#).

MUSIC, KARAOKE DANCE PARTY: Free. 11 pm. Union Hall (702 Union St. at Fifth Avenue in Park Slope, (718) 638-4400). [www.unionhallny.com](#).

SAT, APRIL 2

OUTDOORS AND TOURS

TOUR, GREEN-WOOD CEMETERY: Get introduced to the history, architecture, and people. \$15, \$12 seniors and students. 1 pm. Greenwood Cemetery (Fifth Avenue and

Greene, (718) 596-5410). [www.cb2k@nyc.rr.com](#).

Community Board 1 Executive Committee. Monthly meeting. 6 pm. District office (435 Graham Ave. at Frost Street in Williamsburg, (718) 389-0009). [www.cb1brooklyn.org](#).

THURS, APRIL 7

Brooklyn Bridge Rotary Club. Weekly meeting. 12:15 pm. Brooklyn Marriott (333 Adams St. in Downtown, (917) 804-0797).

Community Board 1 Public Safety Committee. Monthly meeting. 6:30 pm. District office (435 Graham Ave. at Frost Street in Williamsburg, (718) 389-0009). [www.cb1brooklyn.org](#).

To list an event in the Civic Calendar, e-mail [Calendar@cnglocal.com](#).

CIVIC CALENDAR

MON, APRIL 4

Bay Ridge AARP. Monthly meeting. 2 pm. Bay Ridge Manor (476 76th St. at Fourth Avenue in Bay Ridge, (718) 256-3551).

TUES, APRIL 5

Community Board 2 Economic Development and Job Creation Committee. Monthly meeting. 6 pm. Long Island University (DeKalb and Flatbush avenues in Downtown, (718) 596-5410). [www.cb2k@nyc.rr.com](#).

Community Board 1 Public Safety and Human Services Committee. Monthly meeting. On the agenda:

Proposal for 400 McGuinness Blvd. 6:30 pm. Polish National Home (261 Driggs Ave. between Eckford and Leonard streets in Greenpoint, (718) 389-0009). [www.cb1brooklyn.org](#).

76th Precinct Community Council. Monthly meeting. 7:30 pm. 76th Precinct Stationhouse (191 Union St. between Sackett and President streets in Carroll Gardens, (718) 834-3207).

WED, APRIL 6

Community Board 2 Health, Environment and Social Services Committee. Monthly meeting. 6 pm. Brooklyn Hospital (121 DeKalb Ave. at St. Felix Street in Fort

SALES AND MARKETS

ARTISTS AND FLEAS: 8 am-4 pm. (70 N. Seventh St. between Wythe and Kent avenues in Williamsburg, (917) 301-5765). [artistsandfleas.com](#).

BROOKLYN FLEA: More than 100 vendors. 10 am-5 pm. (176 Lafayette Ave between Clermont and Vanderbilt avenues in Fort Greene), [www.brooklynflea.com](#).

OTHER

OPENING DAY: The 78th Precinct Youth Council begins its baseball season with field sessions and a visit from Sandy the Seagull, mascot of the Brooklyn Cyclones. Free. 10 am-3 pm. Washington Park (Myrtle Ave. at Willoughby Street in Fort



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When the moon hits your eye!

Don't order a pizza pie — get ramen from Lunetta instead

By Sarah Zorn
for The Brooklyn Paper

Turning Japanese, Lunetta's turning Japanese, we really think so!

But it only happens when the moon is full. Chef Adam Shephard typically cooks Mediterrean specialties at his Smith Street restaurant, but fans of his former restaurant, Taku, keep hounding him for Asian fare — so he obliges them whenever the moon hits their eyes like a big pizza pie, swapping his regular menu for bowls of slurpable ramen noodles and yuzu-sauced chicken wings.

"I was trying to think of devices to hang the ramen pop-up on, and it came to me — let's hinge it on the lunar cycle," said Shephard. "I didn't want to do it so often that it became something people got tired of, and the full moon concept works with the name, Lunetta. There's a bit of a bridge there."

Besides the classic ramen (which can be ordered with grilled braised ribs), moon-gazers can sample Shephard's charred long bean salad with miso-tofu dressing (\$7), crisp yuzu chicken wings (\$8), sesame crusted shrimp with spicy QP mayo (\$8), or tofu



Photo by Stefano Giovannini

DINING

Lunetta [116 Smith St. between Pacific and Dean Streets in Cobble Hill, (718-488-6269). Next ramen night is April 16, 6–10 pm.

"fries" with QP and dried chili (\$5). All are eminently sharable and ideally washed down with a glass of sake or a crisp and fruity koshihikari rice lager.

And make sure to order the Hanako Pickles pickled vegetables (\$5). In addition to providing a welcome contrast to the parade of salt, fat, and pork, 100 percent of the sales go to helping Japan relief efforts.

For anyone that doesn't have the lunar calendar app for their iPhone, Lunetta's next full moon Ramen event rolls out on April 16. Shephard hopes to sling around 100 bowls of ramen in four hours.

"That's kind of the perfect amount for me," said Shephard. "I can't make this an all-day thing. It's a lot of fun, but I can't put myself through the hell of serving spaghetti and meatballs as well as ramen and chicken wings all at the same time in the middle of a Saturday night."

This week's hottest food dish

Foodie-in-Chief
By Sarah Zorn

Roberta's asserts its hipster cred and gets props from Danny Meyer, and Park Slope says "Guten Tag" to a new Austrian sausage joint in this week's dose of neighborhood food news.

Sirloin saturation: Will chain-burgers find their way into every gossip column from now until the foreseeable future? The answer is yes, if Five Guys Burgers and Fries has anything to do with it. According to Brownstoner, D.C.'s meaty mega-monster plans to stake its claim on another Brooklyn address, 266 Court St. in Cobble Hill. A few more of these, and we definitely won't be lovin' it.

Snapps and sippy cups: Café Steinhof will soon have a competitor in the weinerschnitzel arena. Our friends at Here's Park Slope noticed that a new Austrian eatery, Der Kommissar, is almost ready to open in the Fifth Avenue space formerly occupied by Borin Queya 2. The official website for



Photo by Stefano Giovannini

Heating up: Chris Iacono has opened Giuseppeina's on Sixth Avenue in the South Slope — and his pizzas are gorgeous.

the beer and brats joint promises "a taste of Vienna with a Park Slope vibe." We're assuming that means valet stroller parking.

Soul survivor: Clinton Hill's revamped Caribbean Soul restaurant (formerly Soule International), reopened last weekend, reports Eater. The resto now boasts a packed calendar of in-house events, including

live jazz music, poetry slams, and yes, even karaoke, but jerk chicken and oxtail stew aficionados will be relieved to find that the West Indian menu remains essentially untouched.

Constant cravings: Sometimes you just need a quinoa and lentil veggie burger at five in the morning. Luckily, Anytime's late night

comfort food delivery service has Greenpoint and Williamsburg residents covered. There's even a new, special deal for light-of-wallet insomniacs: \$12 will buy a sandwich, side, dessert and drink, delivered right to your door. Although not part of the prix fixe, Anytime is also happy to send cigs along with the sandwich. Where was this place when we were in college?

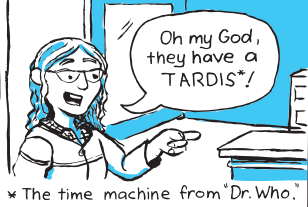
Pizza, the sequel: Park Slope Patch reports that Giuseppinas, sister restaurant to the uber-popular Lucali, is finally open for business. Make that brother restaurant; Chris Iacono, bro to Lucali's Mark, owns the South Slope pizzeria. Let's hope that the ability to make properly crisp, wood-fired crust runs in the gene pool.

Beastly brew: Six Point Brewery has joined forces with the Chances with Wolves radio show to create a brand-new beer. "The Knockout Punch" is a Hawaiian Red Ale infused with — what else? — Hawaiian Punch! The silly suds were debuted at Beer for Beasts, a food and drink event held at the Bell House to benefit the Humane Society of New York City. Drinking beer + helping puppies = win/win situation.

BAR SCRAWL

By Bill Roundy

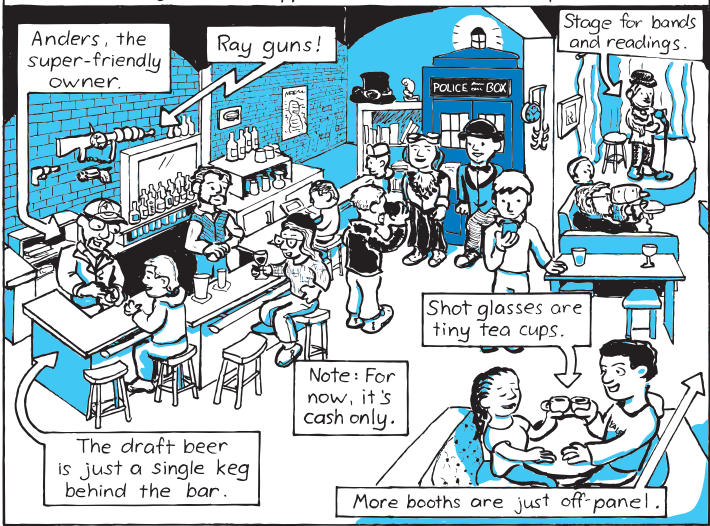
This is how most nerds react when they enter The Way Station:



The iconic blue box actually contains the bar's bathroom.



It's still got a few rough edges, but it's a cheerful place to hang out even if you don't appreciate the sci-fi/steampunk touches.



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GAY...

Continued from page 1

same-sex households per capita than any other patch of the borough.

Such “alternative” households comprise 11 percent of the neighborhood, making it more of a gay family hub than Park Slope, Williamsburg or even Chelsea, a widely recognized “gay” neighborhood that has only nine percent of its households listed as same-sex.

Gay and lesbians say that Columbia Street offers the best of both worlds: it has a small-town feeling without the “small-town mentality.”

“There’s a sense of rugged individualism and diversity,” said Brian McCormick, who has lived with his partner, Scott, in the area for seven years. “In a monolithic neighborhood, all of a sudden I’m aware that I’m gay — but people here don’t segregate themselves socially.”

Indeed, there’s not a single “gay bar” in the sleepy neighborhood, where a smattering of restaurants faces a waterfront bike lane — and new condos have sprouted alongside affordable-housing complexes.

About 1,500 people live within the two-by-10- block census tract, which is as socio-economically diverse as it is socially insular.

It makes sense that the place has become a nesting ground for gay couples, said Mike Cummings of the equal rights group New York Civil Liberties Union. “There are great schools and plenty of artists. ... Who knows what motivates [gay] couples, but it’s clearly a place they feel comfortable.”

It’s the first time that the Census Bureau has tracked “same sex couple” households, so other neighborhoods are also emerging as unexpected gay Meccas.

Prospect Heights, for example, was the second-gayest neighborhood in the borough — with same-sex couples making up nine percent of the households. Tracts in Park Slope and Williamsburg maxed out at five percent.



Photo by Stefano Giovannini

Brian McCormick (right) and his partner, Scott Page, are part of the reason why the Columbia Street Waterfront District is the gayest neighborhood in the city.

CENSUS...

Continued from page 1

right there over the last 10 years.”

Brooklyn’s population is up from 2.465 million in 2000, but well below 2.579 million that the Census Bureau projected in 2009.

And the federal bean counters claim that the entire city of New York only added about

166,000 people since 2000, for a total population of 8.175 million, although the city says it is likely 8.4 million.

If the numbers from the constitutionally mandated decennial count hold, the city will face long-term consequences.

New York State is expected to lose two congressional seats

when districts are redrawn later this year — and political insiders believe that Brooklyn or Queens could lose one of them.

And federal and state funds to the city, which is tied to population, would likely diminish

As such, state Sen. Marty Golden (R–Bay Ridge) joined his fellow politicians in calling the Census count an “abomination,” an assessment that

has become an once-a-decade ritual among urban lawmakers.

“Literally billions upon billions of taxpayer dollars were expended on this failed effort,” said Golden. “All avenues, including legal action, need to be explored in order to correct this injustice.”

Then again, it could be worse—Queens apparently grew only 0.1 percent, or 1,300 people since 2000.

PARK...

Continued from page 1

rush hour.

The same year, the Department of Transportation — then under the leadership of Iris Weinshall — announced a six-month pilot program to increase the number of car-free hours in Prospect Park.

The bicycle advocacy group Transportation Alternatives called the pilot program a success, and pushed for car-free parks. But that push caused a backlash from neighbors — many of them Winsor Terrace residents — who feared the plan would clog their streets.

Indeed, a 2007 city study of the pilot program revealed that banning autos from Prospect Park would increase traffic by 30 to 47 percent on Prospect Park Southwest and by 6 to 11 percent on Prospect Park West, between 7 am and 9 am.

And since that study, Prospect Park West has been narrowed to two lanes from three to accommodate the internationally controversial bike lane.

“It’s just too much,” said baseball mom-turned-team chauffeur Lisa Finshrom. “It will squish more cars onto narrow streets.”

And Borough President

Markowitz thinks that the current limitations are fine.

“In many respects, the goal of having a car-free Prospect Park is a laudable one,” the Beep said in a statement, “However, as the borough president I must represent all Brooklyn residents, including those who drive through Prospect Park as well as those whose side near the park that may be negatively impacted by additional restrictions.”

Markowitz said that the the current schedule was negotiated by a group that included himself, the borough’s Council delegation, the Prospect Park Alliance, the Department of Transportation and the NYPD.

“I believe that the existing limited access for automobiles in Prospect Park sufficiently balances the needs of all users,” he added.

The new bill comes at a time when neighbors, Weinshall among them, are hotly debating — and even suing over — the use of streets surrounding the park. (Weinshall didn’t return our calls, But Transportation Alternatives still trumpets the bill as nothing short of green space genius.)

“Central and Prospect parks are New Yorkers’ backyards,” said spokesman Noah Budnick. “Just like someone with a house, we don’t want highways running through our backyards!”

CB6: Midnight’s ours

Calls for Prime 6 bar to close early on weekends

By Natalie O’Neill
The Brooklyn Paper

Keep it down after midnight!

A Community Board 6 committee demanded on Monday night that a controversial Park Slope bar close its 46-seat outdoor patio by midnight on weekends, saying neighbors aren’t exactly the late-night party types.

“It’s reasonable,” said Pauline Blake, who lives nearby and dreads the boom of boozy voices coming from Prime 6, a 230-person sports bar under construction at Flatbush and Sixth avenues. “Later than that means I’m not going to sleep.”

Prime 6 owner Akiva Ofshtein will fight the resolution, saying that he has invested too much money to boot his open-air cocktail crowd earlier than 1 am, which would be one hour more than some, but not all, of the competing bars nearby.

“I can’t go below the competitive standard,” said Ofshtein, who will open in May. “I’m glad everybody is getting ideas on the table — but



Photo by Stefano Giovannini

Now locals are going after Prime 6 owner Akiva Ofshtein hours.

the contention is Friday and Saturdays.”

According to the State Liquor Authority, bars can legally serve drinks until 4 am, although bars in quiet neighborhoods often usher open-air drinkers indoors long before that to avoid neighborly rifts.

Park Slopers have been protesting Prime 6 for weeks, saying it will keep them up at all hours, clog streets and lure a rowdy crowd from Barclays

Center arena, which will open one block away in 2012.

In an interview last week, Ofshtein explained that he would offer “occasional” lounge-style bottle service — a nightlife trend in which big spenders order full bottles of hard liquor for a table of partiers. Previously, he told the State Liquor Authority that he would have four “security guards” and an outdoor “stand-up bar” with live music.

Aviators crash & burn

Federal League hockey trophy goes to Akwesasne

By Thomas Tracy
The Brooklyn Paper

It’s all over.

The New York Aviators fell in the Federal Hockey League finals with a crushing, 5–2 loss in Canada on Saturday night — killing the scrappy squad’s dreams of winning the coveted Commissioner’s Cup.

The Aviators had the best record during the league’s inaugural season, and made short work of its rivals, the Danbury Whalers, in the first round of the playoffs. But in the finals, the pride of Floyd Bennett Field fell behind the Akwesasne Warriors, 2–0, before forcing a Game 4 with a 6-3 win against Friday night.

The Canadians went on the warpath as soon as they took to the ice inside the Akwesasne Turtle Dome — taking 13 shots at the Aviators’s net in the first period alone. The Aviators had only four shots.

Goaltender Kevin Druce fended off the most of the onslaught, giving up only one goal with five minutes remaining in the first period.

The Warriors earned their second



Photo by Allison Papineau

BLAME CANADA: The Akwesasne Warriors celebrate their Federal Hockey League championship by hoisting the mighty Commissioner’s Cup after defeating the New York Aviators.

goal three minutes into the second period, but by then the Brooklyn squad began pushing back, with Aviator Jesse Felten scoring seconds later.

But things just fell apart in the third period. With the Warriors leading 3-2, Coach Robert Miller decided to play dangerously. With three minutes re-

maining, he swapped Druce for a player that could help in power plays, leaving an empty net.

The decision proved to be a costly one — with no one protecting the net, the Warriors easily scored two more goals before the final buzzer sounded.

This is not Wisconsin

The mayor’s assault on schools and teachers reached a new low recently when he convinced the New York State Senate to pass a bill that ended seniority rules that guarantee impartiality in layoffs. As the bill was being rushed through the Senate in record time, UFT members responded with thousands of faxes to their state senators. More than 100 members also joined me at press conferences to denounce the bill, and 1,200 of us descended on Albany to meet with our representatives for our annual Lobby Day.

Our voices were heard in the state capital. Members of the Assembly, led by Speaker Sheldon Silver, made clear that a bill that takes our schools back to the days of cronyism and bias — and destroys collective-bargaining rights — has no place in this state. The governor responded as well. “New York is not Wisconsin,” the governor said.

The statements by Gov. Andrew Cuomo and Speaker Silver were welcome voices of sanity amid the current ideological attack on teachers’ rights. Instead of moving backward in time to the days when public servants had no rights on the job, Gov. Cuomo is building on the work that the UFT did in helping to draft a new statewide teacher evaluation system last spring. He has introduced legislation to accelerate the implementation of the new system — a system that moves away from the inadequate, subjective one we have now to a more objective set of criteria.

There is a battle going on for the soul of America. Its epicenter is Wisconsin, where a bill that would strip public-sector workers of their collective-bargaining rights has provoked a massive response that has inspired teachers, fire fighters, police officers, nurses and other workers throughout the country. On the one side are Republican governors and lawmakers who are using states’ fiscal woes as an excuse to pursue long-held goals of taking away workers’ rights and reducing their benefits. On the other side are millions of working families who have watched years of corporate tax giveaways, budget cuts and anti-union politics erode what’s left of the middle class and create an



By Michael Mulgrew
President of the United Federation of Teachers

ever-increasing gap between the rich and the rest of us — and who are now saying, “Enough is enough.”

Politicians like governors Walker (Wisconsin), Kasich (Ohio) and Christie (New Jersey) are exploiting economic insecurity, preying on people who have lost their jobs or health care or worry that they will, people just barely scraping by, and trying to pit them against teachers and other public-sector workers whose union contracts have won them basic rights and a decent living. The governors’ campaigns have nothing to do with improving public services or standards of living, and everything to do with abolishing institutions — first and foremost unions — that stand up for the public good.

In New York, Mayor Bloomberg is working out of this same playbook. He’s hell-bent on laying off teachers, even though everyone knows this would be an educational disaster, simply to push his agenda of ending seniority protections. He’s working hard to pit newer teachers against veteran teachers, parents against teachers and school communities against each other.

Like other politicians across the nation, Bloomberg’s fear-mongering is offering false solutions to non-existent problems. The city has a \$3.1 billion surplus — there is no need for layoffs. Period.

Thankfully, the United States is still a democracy and the people of New York — like so many of their fellow citizens throughout the country — are fighting back against the assaults on our rights and our schools and other public services.

We are working with leaders like Gov. Cuomo and Speaker Silver who understand that teachers are not the problem and unions are not the enemy. We are moving forward with those who share our commitment to results-oriented policies that help our schools rather than politically driven agendas that hurt children. We’re in the community, talking to parents and coming together with community groups. We’re in Albany, talking to legislators. We’re speaking out wherever and whenever possible. We will do whatever it takes.

This is not Wisconsin. Let’s keep it that way.



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PARENT

How to beat the bullies

I have advised many a mother in my day not to fight her kids' battles, not to give in to the terrorist-like tactics of so-called "bullies" and make their antics a big deal. That, of course, was before my own son came off the playground recently in tears and my theory turned to harsh reality: I wanted to go after the mean kid myself and kick his cute little butt.

Of course, the actual episode was probably not as dramatic as my elder son's tears suggested — childhood arguments, like all arguments, rarely are. I would say my boys have been blissfully lucky in that they have not really encountered meanness, so even the slightest bit of it is enough to have them slightly shell-shocked.



Fearless Parenting

By Stephanie Thompson

"Why didn't you just say something back, something rude and jokey like you do with your brother? Not take it so seriously?" I said, trying to take my own advice and help Eli brush off the slight.

He wiped at his eyes. "I thought of things, but I don't know. ... I couldn't say them."

Something caught in his throat and he began to lose it again at the memory of feeling powerless.

I should have been glad that my son didn't want to fight mean, but the episode

left me flabbergasted. A minor insult like this — the "bully" dissed Eli's skills at sports — didn't seem to warrant the torrent of upset.

But of course, it's not about the insult itself, but about the flood of emotions that the insult triggers. In Oscar's case, suddenly an inner voice was telling him that the bully might actually be right. The seed of doubt had been planted — and nothing your adoring mother tells you can stop its growth.

I guess that's why I didn't take my typical "get up and brush yourself off" approach,

the same you-can-do-it-yourself theorem I apply to homework. I suppose it occurred to me that the idea of boys being mean to one another was going to creep up again, probably, and I needed to weigh in, if not forcibly against the perpetrator, at least with a few faux-wise words.

I started with the classic maxim that people saying mean things always has more to do with the bully than the person whom they're bullying. When that didn't work, I ended with how I was going to threaten the child that I would tell his parents if ever was mean to Eli again.

Luckily, I came to my senses and didn't make a mountain of what had clearly been a molehill. These little incidents tend to blow over if

we let them. Yes, it hurt when Jimmy Franz told me I sucked at dodgeball. And it was traumatic when Coach Jackman made sure I got picked last for kickball, but our role as parents is to guide our children through the tough times — not use them to revisit our own traumas.

Yes, kids suffer small and huge humiliations at the hands of other kids. And, tears are indeed shed because of the fast-talking bully catches his dube unaware. But we do our kids no favor fighting their battles. Now, certainly, there are exceptions to that, such as when the torture takes on serious proportions. But garden-variety back-and-forths, the "teases" my husband can still recall from his younger days

have to be suffered without my heading out to the playground on a mission, without my saying a word except, "Sorry..." to my son with sad, sympathetic eyes. I might add a "that sucks," if I wasn't trying so, so hard to get Eli to stop saying "sucks."

We practice at the dinner table now, saying, "Sticks and stones may break my bones, but words can never hurt me," and trying to believe it. As a writer who has had mean words hurled at her before on a few occasions, I can share that experience with my children. I tell them not to worry about what other people say — and that every time I stand tall, and continue to write, I am getting stronger for the next time. It is all a small matter of believing in oneself, and the best thing I can do for my kids is to show them that I can actually do that.

And sometimes, I really do.

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6:45 pm: Movie night, "Cinderella." Free. Moxie Spot [81 Atlantic Ave. between Hicks and Henry streets in Brooklyn Heights, (718) 923-9710], themoxiespot.com.

SAT, APRIL 2
11 am: Illustrator Nancy Doniger entertains children 3-8. Free. Greenlight Bookstore [686 Fulton St. between South Elliott Place and South Portland Avenue in Fort Greene, (718) 246-0200], greenlight-bookstore.com.

SUN, APRIL 3
11 am: Baby story time. Free. Greenlight Bookstore (see venue info above).
12:30 pm and 2:30 pm: Puppet show, "Alice in Wonderland." \$8 (kids, \$7). Puppetworks [338 Sixth Ave. at Fourth Street in Park Slope, (718) 965-3391], www.puppetworks.org.
1 pm: Musical, "Cinderella." Free. Brooklyn Public Library's Central branch [Flatbush Avenue at Eastern Parkway in Grand Army Plaza in Park Slope, (718) 230-2100].

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CRISIS...

Continued from page 1 more difficult.

"I don't know if there was a baby boom we were unaware of or parents are now thinking about zoned schools instead of private schools because of the economy, but we have more students than usual," she said.

The city is mandated to provide seats for kindergartners, but not necessarily in the child's home district or zones.

Education Department spokesman Jack Zarin-Rosenfeld said that when a school has more students than seats, the city offers a slot at a nearby alternate schools.

"Mostly every single time, it's in their district," he said.

Some spaces open up as some accepted parents opt for private schools or make it in to the city's gifted and talented schools, so some wait-listed kids will get some good news at the end of May, he added.

But even those that work for the city aren't immune to the wait-list limbo. Marc Sternberg, the school system's deputy chancellor for

portfolio planning, also has a would-be kindergartner on PS 107's wait list.

Getting into kindergarten in Park Slope is becoming almost as difficult as getting into Harvard. First preference goes to siblings of students already enrolled in the school zone, then to siblings who now live outside

the zone. Children who live in the zone but don't have siblings at PS 107, and out-of-zone applicants are considered last.

Kreps said that when applied at PS 107, school officials told him they would have no problem admitting Reuben, so he did not apply at other nearby schools

as backup. The wait-list letter arrived like a bombshell, threatening to shatter his family's work schedules, finances and child care.

As a result, Krebs and his wife, Harlene, are discussing home-schooling Reuben or forming a home-schooled group with other wait-listed parents, as many are worried

BLOTTER...

Continued from page 4 goodies on Prospect Place on March 22.

The driver told cops he parked a white van near Carlton Avenue at 12:15 pm, but came back about an hour later to discover his driver's-side door was mangled and his laptop and cellphone were gone.

Journal bandit
Two bullies attacked a student on Washington Avenue on March 22.

A witness told cops that a 12-year-old boy was strolling home from school at around 3:15 pm when two strangers stopped him near Sterling Place. One flashed a knife and demanded the kid hand over his notebook before both thugs ran away.

Soda snatch
A sneaky jerk swiped a woman's purse at a cozy bar on Vanderbilt Avenue on March 22.

The 32-year-old lady told cops that she set her gray leather bag on the back of a chair at Soda, near St. Marks Avenue, at around 10 pm, and then noticed it was gone about an hour later.

Inside was a sketchbook, a gift card and some credit cards, one of which was used to buy \$412 worth of Met-rorcards.

Pocket digger
A duo of crooks stole a teenager's iPod on Grand Avenue on March 25.

The 18-year-old victim told cops that he was near Dean Street at 2:25 pm when a man shouted, "Give me what's in your pocket!"

The teen tried to walk away, but one of the thugs then dug into his pocket and snatched his iPod Touch.

— Natalie O'Neill

68TH PRECINCT
Bay Ridge-Dyker Heights

Potent perp
A hard-up thief broke into the EZ RX Pharmacy on Fourth Avenue on March 24 to steal Viagra, insulin and cash.

Cops say that the far-from-impotent thief broke the glass front door of the store, which is between Third and Fourth avenues, at around 5 am to

make his move.

Laptop heist
Someone broke into a 62nd Street apartment on March 24 to steal three laptops and a camera.

The tech geek victim told cops that he left his home, which is between 10th and 11th avenues, at 8 am.

He returned nine hours later to find his front door busted and his electronics gone.

Bus mug
Someone swiped cash and cards from a woman on the B63 bus on March 21.

The victim told cops that she was near the 77th Street stop on the Fifth Avenue local at around 11:25 am when an unknown dude swiped stuff from her bag, and fled.

Car of cards
Someone broke into a 2000 Nissan Pathfinder overnight on March 23 to steal five credit cards, a bank card and a watch.

The victim told cops that he parked his ride at around 11:30 am. He returned five hours later to find his front passenger window smashed and his stuff gone.

— Alex Rush

90TH PRECINCT
Southside-Bushwick

Playtime over
A perp hit a woman over the head with a glass bottle inside a Graham Avenue recording studio on March 25.

The woman was inside the Playtime Studio near Broadway at 3:20 am with the perp, a man she knew from work, when he grabbed a bottle and struck her head. He fled before the police showed up.

No Marcy
A thief stole a laptop from a Marcy Avenue apartment on March 25 at 5:50 pm, and fled onto the roof to an adjoining building at Hope Street — just as the tenant came home from work.

It's a Keeper
A thief took a video game system and several games from a S. Fifth Street apartment on March 25 while its tenant was at work between 9 am and 8 pm.

Hard time
A thief stole a laptop and

hard drive from a Bedford Avenue apartment near S. Third Street on Mar 26 at 3 pm while its tenant was out for the afternoon.

McKibbed it
A thief swiped a Toyota from McKibbin Street overnight on March 22. The owner told cops that she parked near White Street at 10 pm, but when she returned the next night, the Japanese wheels were gone.

Subaru smash
A thief swiped stuff from a Subaru from Knickerbocker Avenue overnight on March 25. The owner said she parked near Grattan Street at 7:30 pm, but returned the next day to find her rear window smashed and her laptop, clothes, and books stolen from the back seat.

Harrison Ford
A thief stole a Ford from Harrison Place on March 26. The owner told cops that she had parked near Bogart Street at 9 am, but when she returned 12 hours later, the was gone.

— Aaron Short

78TH PRECINCT
Park Slope

Hero cop
The precinct's top cop busted a group of thugs who snatched a poor kid's cellphone on Fourth Street on March 29.

A group of teenage bullies swiped a 14-year-old's BlackBerry cellphone near Fifth Avenue, then fled. Deputy Inspector John Argenziano was later patrolling a few blocks away at 6 pm, when he spotted a teen in striped jacket, who matched the description of one of the bullies, hanging out in a group.

The zealous officer then brought the victim to the scene to confirm the teen in the jacket — and some of his friends — were the jerks who jacked the phone. Four of them were arrested.

Style police
A gun-toting jerk snatched some expensive jewelry from clothing shop on Flatbush Avenue on March 25.

A worker told cops he was doing inventory at Vin-

nies Styles, which sells hip-hop duds near Bergen Street, at around 11 am, when a man walked into the store and flashed a silver handgun.

"Give me everything," he shouted before swiping \$9,000 worth of white metal studs, a \$4,000 yellow chain and the clerk's cellphone. The crook then jumped into a Mercedes Benz — with Georgia license plates — and sped off.

The boutique is one block from the 78th Precinct stationhouse.

UnAmerican
A crook jacked a bunch of cash from a trendy clothing store on Flatbush Avenue on March 27.

An employee told cops he was inside American Apparel near Park Place, at 9:15 am, when he got a call from a man claiming he was cleaning guy who needed to make a delivery. The crook-in-disguise walked into the store holding a cardboard box, set it down and pulled out a silver revolver.

"Take me to the office," he demanded, while pointing the gun at the worker.

The employee emptied a safe, full of \$730, into the box before the thug ran out the back door.

Salon snoop
A sneaky fellow broke into a beauty salon on Seventh Avenue but took nothing on March 27.

The victim told cops a man destroyed the lock on the front gate of Elan Salon, near Garfield Place, at around 4:45 am. Cameras then show the man rifling drawers at the front of the store — but something must have spooked him because he scampered away empty-handed.

Lock picker
A lock-picking thief snatched a wallet from a man at a gym on 15th Street on March 27.

The 40-year-old victim told cops he locked his wallet inside a locker at Harbor Fitness, near Fifth Avenue, at around 6:15 pm, then went for a sweaty workout. He came back an hour later and found the locker door flung open — with no wallet in sight.

— Natalie O'Neill

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GEESE...

Continued from page 1 city contract with the Department of Agriculture, the federal agency that exterminated hundreds of geese last July in a secret, middle-of-the-night gassing.

Officials now say that, as goose population nears the 200 mark, another "culling" will be likely necessary. As of last week, goose count had hit 180.

Speakers had personal reasons as to why a second slaughter would be especially repugnant: State sen. Eric Adams (D-Park Slope) recalled "courting his first love" while gazing at Prospect Park geese; fifth-grader Orlando Cole-Gorton proclaimed, "Geese were flying over rivers before airplanes existed"; Councilwoman Letitia James (D-Fort Greene) confessed the squawkers were her only friends when she was "a cross-eyed, ugly duckling" child.

"It's arrogant for humans to believe this planet was made just for humans," Adams said, prompting a spirited,

"That's right!" and "Yes!" from the crowd. "These birds give us more than what we give them; we have an obligation and a responsibility to protect them."

James added, "Mayor Bloomberg should be ashamed of himself."

Supporters — some serious, others light-hearted — even channelled the 1960s by transforming John Lennon's legendary peace anthem into, "Give Geese a Chance" (though a few hipsters cringed).

Others held signs emblazoned with an image of a crying goose that read, "Keep them flying, not dying."

Meanwhile, the owners of the restaurant Verile passed out vegan snacks.

Representatives from The Humane Society, along with Friends of Animals also spoke — but it wasn't just the animal rights set who braved the frigid weather to gush over geese.

Flatbush resident Jake Gold summed things up this way: "Geese are part of this community. A giant killing of them is just messed up."

There is still a chance to avoid another mass slaughter. The city's contract with the USDA expires on June 30, but it will likely be re-signed. In hopes of avoiding another slaughter, the Prospect Park Alliance is trying to control the goose population by destroying goose eggs before embryos can form, deploying bird-chasing dogs, and discouraging park-goers from feeding the fowl.

FT HAM...

Continued from page 1 the only thing that counts," said Bill Guarinello, chairman of the Fort Hamilton Citizens Action Committee.

Less than five employees of the Corps live in the Bay Ridge area, according to Ward, but that doesn't mean the neighborhood is

willing to give up it up without a fight.

"This flag will not be moved — not on my watch," said Rep. Michael Grimm (R-Bay Ridge), a former Marine. "If their troops have issues, we're going to do what we can to alleviate those issues and support them."

HUMMUS

Continued from page 1 The workers sued Grudhut in 2009, claiming they had been soaked and mashed, and the National Labor Relations Board ruled that he owed them \$260,000 in back wages — or roughly 65,000 containers of hummus.

So far, Grudhut hasn't given the workers the money — and the boycott has spread.

Activist Dan Gross is lobbying other grocery stores, such as Fairway and Whole Foods, to drop the brand. He also wants Grudhut to

pay up.

"These workers have had their rights violated and we need to recover what's been taken from them," said Gross, who actually prefers mustard to hummus.

A manager for Flaum's Appetizing said the company is negotiating with former employees and that sales have not dipped.

"It's a very good product," said manager Aryeh Filbert.

Flaum's has many loyal customers, including Williamsburg's Gary Schlesinger, who declared its smooth, yet well-balanced tangy appetizer the best in Brooklyn.

"[Grudhut] and his family will go the extra mile to help even strangers, so I suggest those who don't have the hummus locally to walk the extra mile to get their hummus!" Schlesinger told us.

But many Coop regulars have been seduced by Sabra hummus, a Virginia-based company that Coop buyer Lisa Hidem swapped for Sonny and Joe's.

"The membership prefers the Sabra hummus," said Hidem. "Even if they ended the boycott, I don't think I would replace Sabra."

PTA MOM

Continued from page 1 The current parent association president and parent coordinator at PS 29 did not get back to us by late Tuesday. A call to Steve Flammhaft, Hogan's attorney, wasn't returned.

Hogan's crimes aren't

stopping fundraising efforts at the school, which has embarked on a "coin harvest" to raise money for Japan earthquake relief efforts. The school expects to raise \$6,500 — the same amount collected for Haiti earthquake victims last year.

NOTICE IS HEREBY given that an Order entered by the Civil Court, Kings County on 03/29/2011, bearing Index Number NC-000328-11/K1, a copy of which may be examined at the Office of the Clerk, located at 141 Livingston Street, Brooklyn, NY 11201, grants me the right to: Assume the name of (First) Mieko (Last) Takase. My present name is (First) Mieko (Last) Takase Hu FKA Mieko Takase. My present address is 878 71 St., Brooklyn, NY 11228. My place of birth is Kanagawa, Japan. My date of birth is October 08, 1946.

NOTICE IS HEREBY given that an Order entered by the Civil Court, Kings County on 03/28/2011, bearing Index Number NC-000325-11/K1, a copy of which may be examined at the Office of the Clerk, located at 141 Livingston Street, Brooklyn, NY 11201, grants me the right to: Assume the name of (First) Victoria (Last) Romanov. My present name is (First) Viktoriya (Last) Rafailova. My present address is 1869 83rd Street, Brooklyn, NY 11214. My place of birth is Uzbekistan. My date of birth is April 08, 1986.

NOTICE IS HEREBY given that an Order entered by the Civil Court, Kings County on 03/29/2011, bearing Index Number NC-000305-11/K1, a copy of which may be examined at the Office of the Clerk, located at 141 Livingston Street, Brooklyn, NY 11201, grants me the right to: Assume the name of (First) Mohamed El Amine (Last) Bensabeur Belhadi. My present name is (First) Mohamed El Amine (Last) Bensabeur Belhadi AKA Mohamed Aime Belhadi Bensabeur AKA Mohamed-daime B. Bensabeur. My present address is 2114 77 St, Brooklyn, NY 11214. My place of birth is Algeria. My date of birth is September 21, 1984.

Notice is hereby given that an Order entered by the Civil Court, Kings County on the 17th Day Of February, 2011, bearing Index Number N00168, a copy of which may be examined at the Office of the Clerk, located at 141 Livingston Street, Brooklyn, NY, in room 007, grants the minor the right to Assume the name of (1st Name) TOVA (Middle Names) LUMI HARRISON (Last Name) WHIMSTER. The minor's present name is (1st

Name) TOVA (Middle Name) LUMI (Last Name) HARRISON WHIMSTER. The minor's present address is 68 Greene Avenue, Brooklyn, NY 11238. The minor's place of birth is in the City and State of New York, and County of Kings. The minor's date of birth is February 4, 2007.

NOTICE IS HEREBY given that an Order entered by the Civil Court, Kings County on 03/14/2011, bearing Index Number NC-000279-11/K1, a copy of which may be examined at the Office of the Clerk, located at 141 Livingston Street, Brooklyn, NY 11201, grants me the right to: Assume the name of (First) Alexander (Last) Cox. My present name is (First) Cox (Middle) Alexander (Last) Velez (infant). My present address is 643 40th Street, Brooklyn, NY 11232. My place of birth is Brooklyn, N.Y. My date of birth is April 22, 2005.

Notice of Public Hearing. Department of Consumer Affairs, on Wednesday, April 13, 2011 will consider the petition of M and G Together 4 Ever, LLC, to continue to maintain, and operate an unenclosed sidewalk cafe at 307 Flatbush Avenue, in the Borough of

Brooklyn. The hearing will be held at 66 John Street, on the 11th floor, at 2:00 p.m.

Pursuant to Section 182 of the Lien Law of The State of New York, Tuck-It-Away Associates, L.P. (The Lienor) has a Self-Service Storage Facility Lien against the self-storage rooms listed below, and hereby give notice that on Friday, April 1st, 2011 beginning at 10:00 a.m., and continuing on succeeding days thereafter until all goods are sold, it will sell at auction in a commercially reasonable manner the contents of these room, at 2207 Albee Road, Brooklyn, NY 11226

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3.White, Hezikiah Room# 1A32
4.Gitters, Lena E. Room# 1A38
5.Smith, Terry M. Room# 1A49
6.Mc Dermont, Roland Room# 1B03
7.Coles, Martha Room# 1B17
8.Baptiste, Margarette Room# 1C12 & 3A01
9.Perez, Michael Room# 1C21
10.Selmour, Gregory Room# 1C26

11.Steeple, Lawrence T. Room# 1C81
12.Daize, Garnette, N. Room# 1D10
13.Fearon, Sandradene A... Room# 2D20
14.Anthony, Luis A. Room# 1E02
15.Russell, Wayne Room# 1E17
16.Brown, Camilla Room# 1E20
17.Carmona, David Room# 1E26
18.Mark, Cecil Room# 1E34
19.Hunt, Clayvahn Room# 1E41
20.Wasserman, Sarah R. Room# 1H20
21.Bony, Elizabeth A. Room# 1H21
22.Hutchinson, Randy Room# 1H24
23.McKenzie, Omar Room# 1H25 & 3C29
24.Antoine, Brenda M. Room# 1H65
25.Mompoin, Daphnee Room# 1H75
26.Renaud, Darlyne Room# 1M19
27.Bennett, Andrew Room# 2A10
28.Gervais, Pamela Room# 2A34
29.Baptiste, Ernst Room# 2B13
30.Murray Jr, Bernard Room# 2B26
31.Jarvis, Shirreen Room# 2C13
32.Moss, Michael

Room# 2C26
33.Livingston, Ashanta, A. Room# 2C42
34.Caesar, Jason Room# 2D20
35.Leger, Eddy Room# 2E10
36.Lafontant, Christian Room# 2E49
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38.Ifili, Kathy Room# 2E89
39.Malachi, Antonia C. Room# 2F23
40.Roberts, Mary Room# 2H30
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42.Spain, Mark Room# 2H31
43.Bristol, Ena P. Room# 2H44
44.Briggs, Teeshaw Room# 2H49
45.Owoade, Taofeek A Jr Room# 2J21
46.Alexandre, Brenda M. Room# 2J35
47.Campell, Jerome Room# 2J59
48.Thimakis, Katharine Room# 2K06
49.Joseph, Alicia Room# 2P29
50.Crockwell-Lewis, Judy Room# 2R14
51.Clark, Beverley D. Room# 2R50
52.Jarbo, Maia, S. Room# 2V05
53.Jackson, Monique L. Room# 2V45
54.Jackman, Kirt

Room# 2V58
55.Kid Transit Inc. Room# 2W04
56.Gomez, Kalima Room# 2W05
57.Richardson, Bob Room# 2W11
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63.Smith, Glenass Room# 3A06
64.Guerrero, Analis Room# 3A24
65.Bennett, Andrew Room# 3B25
66.White, Michael Anthony Room# 3C06
67.Eusebe, Edith L. Room# 3C17
68.Irving, Rebecca Room# 3C23
69.Kirtton, Tara Room# 3C25
70.Continental Consulting Corporation Room# 3C28
71.Igwe, Nmaeto, C. Room# 3D06
72.Fortune, Margaret Room# 3E06
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74.Scipio, Patricia Room# 3E63
75.Benton, Jeanpierre

Room# 3F39
76.Charles, Dexlon Room# 3F78
77.Pool, Troy A. Room# 3H02
78.Floyd, Sissaria Room# 3H12
79.Larrequi, Karina I. Room# 3H13
80.Thelemaque, Erla M. Room# 3H30
81.Joseph, Saul G S Room# 3H46
82.Smith, Gregory Room# 3H55
83.Lopez, Nancy Room# 3P41
84.Hughes, Jeanette Marie Room# 3R07
85.Murdock, Paulette Room# 3S26
86.Guzman, Zeneida Room# 3S49
87.Wallerson, Denise Room# 3S51
88.McKenzie, Omar Room# 3T22
89.Cox, Khalilah Room# 3V31
90.Williams, Keith Room# 3S99D
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